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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/765,127	01/17/2001	John R. Hind	RSW920010010US1	6523
7590	01/25/2005		EXAMINER	
Jeanine S. Ray-Yarletts IBM Corporation T81/503 P.O. Box 12195 Research Triangle Park, NC 27709			JACKSON, JAKIEDA R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2655	

DATE MAILED: 01/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.	Applicant(s)	
09/765,127	HIND ET AL.	
Examiner	Art Unit	
Jakieda R Jackson	2655	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-72 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-72 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 17 January 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some *
 - c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: ____

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

- Regarding page 1 and 8, applicants list commonly assigned patents, but fail to list the patent number and/or the serial number.
- The Specification is objected to because the term “voice recognition” is misused for what nowadays is called --speech recognition-- in the speech signal processing art. While “voice recognition” and “speech recognition” were both once used interchangeably to refer to spoken word recognition, nowadays these two terms are distinguished. The term “voice recognition” now denotes identification of who is doing the speaking (class 704/246), while “speech recognition” (or word recognition”) denotes identification of what is being said (class 704/251). So, appropriate correction to the proper terms of art is required (e.g. page 45, lines 3-6, claim 21 etc.).

- The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. **Claims 1-22, 25-46 and 49-70** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoffberg et al. (USPN 6,640,145), hereinafter referenced as Hoffberg in view of Cooper et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0029350), hereinafter referenced as Cooper.

Regarding claims 1, 25 and 49, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product for providing improved audio compression, comprising:
a security core which provides security functions (identifier relevant users; column 87, lines 32-41),
one or more components, comprising at least an audio recording component (VCR; column 87, line 65 – column 88, line 3 with column 96, lines 15-24) and one or more transformation components (figure 22, element 2205 with column 103, lines 62-67),
means for operating the security core (column 98, lines 59-65);
means for securely operably connecting (device which attaches) the components to the security core, such that the security core can vouch for authenticity (for

Art Unit: 2655

authentication) of each securely operably connected component (column 99, lines 21-25); and

means for recording an audio stream (VCR) by the securely operably connected audio recording component (column 87, line 65 – column 88, line 3 with column 96, lines 15-24), but lacks means for transforming the audio stream to text and means for securely providing an identification of the securely operably connected audio and transformation component.

Cooper discloses a web based network, comprising:

means for transforming the audio stream to a text stream by at least one of the securely operably connected transformation components (speech-to-text; column 18, paragraph 0241); and

means for securely providing, for the text stream by the security core, and identification of the securely operably connected audio recording component and each of the at least one securely operably connected transformation components (digital certificates; column 5, paragraph 0060), to allow immediate identification and authorization of access.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hoffberg's system, method and computer program product wherein it discloses means for transforming the audio stream to text and means for securely providing an identification of the securely operably connected audio and transformation component, to prevent intrusion by unauthorized third parties (column 5, paragraph 0060).

Art Unit: 2655

Regarding **claims 2, 26 and 50**, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product wherein selected ones of the operable connections are made using one or more buses of the security core (video, audio, home appliances etc.; column 87, lines 38-41 with multimedia input; column 103, lines 45-47).

Regarding **claims 3, 27 and 51**, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product wherein selected ones of the operable connections are made using a wireless connection between (wireless communication between) respective ones of the components and the security core (column 100, lines 22-24 with column 13, lines 1-6 and lines 20-24).

Regarding **claims 4, 28 and 52**, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product wherein the wireless connections use Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) data encryption or an equivalent (DES, "Clipper", elliptic key algorithms, etc.) which provides mutual authentication of both endpoints, negotiation of a time-limited key agreement with secure passage of a selected encryption key (encryption key), and periodic renegotiation of the time-limited key agreement with a new encryption key (column 98, line 59 – column 99, line 9).

An alternate rejection regarding **claims 4, 28 and 52**, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product for providing improved audio compression, but does not specifically disclose SSL data encryption.

Cooper discloses a web based network product wherein the wireless connections use Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) data encryption or an equivalent (SSL; column 1, paragraph 0013, column 7, paragraph 0089 and column 19, paragraph 0265) which

Art Unit: 2655

provides mutual authentication of both endpoints, negotiation of a time-limited key agreement with secure passage of a selected encryption key (encryption keys) and periodic renegotiation of the time-limited key agreement with a new encryption key (column 5, paragraphs 0054 and 0059), to facilitate virtual private network (VPN).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hoffberg's system, method and computer program product wherein the wireless connections use Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) data encryption, to obtain a secure communication technology that is designed to facilitate VPN.

Regarding **claims 5, 29 and 53**, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product wherein selected ones of the secure operable connections are provided when the security core is manufactured (column 99, lines 21-25 with lines 53-57).

Regarding **claims 6, 30 and 54**, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product wherein the means for securely operably connecting further comprises means for authenticating the operably connected component to the security core (column 99, lines 21-25).

Regarding **claims 7, 31 and 55**, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product wherein the means for authenticating further comprises:

means for providing a unique identifier (figure 19, lines 1902) of the operably connected component to the security core (column 96, lines 1-11), along with a digital

Art Unit: 2655

signature of the unique identifier that is created using a private key (private key) of the operably connected component (column 98, lines 59-65); and

means for using, by the security core, a public key (public key) that is cryptographically associated with the private key (private key) to determine authenticity of the operably connected component (column 98, lines 59-65).

Regarding **claims 8, 32 and 56**, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product wherein the means for securely operably connecting is activated by a hardware reset of the component (hardware key), and wherein the hardware reset is activated by operably connecting of the component (column 99, lines 21-25 with column 108, lines 28-28 and column 115, lines 11-13).

Regarding **claims 9, 33 and 57**, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product wherein the means for authenticating are securely stored on the operably connected component (column 99, lines 21-25).

Regarding **claims 10, 34 and 58**, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product further comprising means for authenticating the security core to the operably connected component (column 99, lines 21-25).

Regarding **claims 11, 35 and 59**, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product for providing improved audio compression, but lacks further comprising:

means for detecting whether the audio recording component and the at least one transformation component remain operably connected to the security core during operation of the means for recording and the means for transforming; and

Art Unit: 2655

means for aborting the recording or the transforming if one or more of the audio recording component and the at least one transformation component fails to remain operably connected to the security core during operation of the means for recording and the means for transforming.

Cooper discloses a web based network product further comprising:

means for detecting whether the audio recording component and the at least one transformation component remain operably connected to the security core during operation of the means for recording and the means for transforming (verify the integrity of the file; column 5, paragraph 0056); and

means for aborting the recording or the transforming if one or more of the audio recording component and the at least one transformation component fails to remain operably connected to the security core during operation of the means for recording and the means for transforming (if file has been modified or corrupted, the verification process will fail; column 5, paragraph 0056 and column 13, paragraph 0173), to verify the integrity of the file.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hoffberg's system, method and computer program product such that it further comprises detecting whether the audio and transformation component remain operably connected to the security core and if not, aborting the recording or the transformation, to identify the certificate as being produced by the certifying authority and to ensure that the certificate has not been altered or forged (column 5, paragraph 0056).

Art Unit: 2655

marking the text stream as not authenticated if one or more of the audio recording or transformation component has not been authenticated.

However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the indication that the original data has been altered is a marking, as taught by Cooper (column 14, paragraph 0182, column 13, paragraph 0171 with column 5, paragraph 0056), to verify the integrity.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hoffberg's system, method and computer program product such that it discloses means for determining whether the audio recording component and the at least one transformation component have been authenticated to the security core and if not, marking the text stream as not authenticated if one or more of the audio recording or transformation component has not been authenticated, to identify the certificate as being produced by certifying authority and to ensure that the certificate has not been altered or forged (column 5, paragraph 0056).

Regarding **claims 15, 39 and 63**, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product wherein the means for securely providing further comprises means for digitally notarizing (public/private key), by the security core, the text stream (column 98, lines 59-65).

Regarding **claims 16, 40 and 64**, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product for providing improved audio compression, but lacks wherein the means for securely providing further comprises means for providing an

Art Unit: 2655

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hoffberg's system, method and computer program product product such that it further comprises detecting whether the audio and transformation component remain operably connected to the security core and if not, marking the text stream as not authenticated if one or more of the audio recording or transformation component fail, to identify the certificate as being produced by the certifying authority and to ensure that the certificate has not been altered or forged (column 5, paragraph 0056).

Regarding **claims 13, 37 and 61**, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product for providing improved audio compression, but lacks further comprising:

means for determining whether the audio recording component and the at least one transformation component have been authenticated to the security core; and

means for aborting the recording or the transforming if one or more of the audio recording component and the at least one transformation component has not been authenticated to the security core.

Cooper discloses a web based network product further comprising:

means for determining whether the audio recording component and the at least one transformation component have been authenticated to the security core (verified biometric data; columns 6-7, paragraph 0075); and

means for aborting the recording or the transforming if one or more of the audio recording component and the at least one transformation component has not been

Art Unit: 2655

authenticated to the security core (if file has been modified or corrupted, the verification process will fail; column 5, paragraph 0056 and column 13, paragraph 0173), to verify the integrity of the file.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hoffberg's system, method and computer program product wherein it discloses means for determining whether the audio recording component and the at least one transformation component have been authenticated to the security core and if not, aborting the recording or transforming, to ensure that the identity of the individual is legally acceptable (columns 6-7, paragraph 0075).

Regarding **claims 14, 38 and 62**, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product for providing improved audio compression, but lacks, further comprising:

means for determining whether the audio recording component and the at least one transformation component have been authenticated to the security core; and
means for marking the text stream as not authenticated if one or more of the audio recording component and the at least one transformation component has not been authenticated to the security core.

Cooper discloses a web based network product further comprising:

means for determining whether the audio recording component and the at least one transformation component have been authenticated to the security core verified biometric data; columns 6-7, paragraph 0075), but does not specifically disclose

Art Unit: 2655

marking the text stream as not authenticated if one or more of the audio recording or transformation component has not been authenticated.

However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the indication that the original data has been altered is a marking, as taught by Cooper (column 14, paragraph 0182, column 13, paragraph 0171 with column 5, paragraph 0056), to verify the integrity.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hoffberg's system, method and computer program product such that it discloses means for determining whether the audio recording component and the at least one transformation component have been authenticated to the security core and if not, marking the text stream as not authenticated if one or more of the audio recording or transformation component has not been authenticated, to identify the certificate as being produced by certifying authority and to ensure that the certificate has not been altered or forged (column 5, paragraph 0056).

Regarding claims 15, 39 and 63, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product wherein the means for securely providing further comprises means for digitally notarizing (public/private key), by the security core, the text stream (column 98, lines 59-65).

Regarding claims 16, 40 and 64, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product for providing improved audio compression, but lacks wherein the means for securely providing further comprises means for providing an

• Art Unit: 2655

additional data stream that is associated with the text stream, wherein the additional data stream comprises a digital notarization, created by the security core, of the text stream.

Cooper discloses a web based network product wherein the means for securely providing further comprises means for providing an additional data stream that is associated with the text stream (column 20, paragraph 0279), wherein the additional data stream comprises a digital notarization, created by the security core, of the text stream (column 20, paragraph 0271 with column 6, paragraph 0073 and column 5, paragraph 0053), to reduce the possibility that someone would derive a private key from its public key.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hoffberg's system, method and computer program product wherein the means for securely providing further comprises means for providing an additional data stream that is associated with the text stream, wherein the additional data stream comprises a digital notarization, created by the security core, of the text stream, to identify the certificate as being produced by certifying authority and to ensure that the certificate has not been altered or forged (column 5, paragraph 0056).

Regarding **claims 17, 41 and 65**, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product for providing improved audio compression, but lacks wherein the means for digitally notarizing further comprising means for hashing the combination data block and means for digitally signing the hashed combination block.

Cooper discloses a web based network product further comprising:

means for computing, by the security core, a hash value over the text stream

(hashing algorithm; column 5, paragraph 0055 and column 0073);

means for combining the hash value with a unique identifier (unique value) of the audio recording component and of each of the at least one transformation components, thereby creating a combination data block (column 5, paragraph 0055 and column 6, paragraph 0073);

means for hashing the combination data block (column 5, paragraph 0055 and column 6, paragraph 0073);

means for digitally signing the hashed combination data block (digitally signing message hash) with a private cryptographic key of the security core (cryptographically), wherein the private cryptographic key (private key) has a public cryptographic key (public key) cryptographically associated therewith (column 6, paragraph 0073); and

means for providing the digitally signed hashed combination data block (digitally signing message hash), along with the combination data block, as the digital notarization for the text stream, wherein the digital notarization cryptographically seals contents (cryptographically) of the text stream and identifies the audio recording component and each of the at least one transformation components (column 6, paragraph 0073 and column 5, paragraph 0055), for the verification of the signature.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hoffberg's system, method and computer program product wherein the means for digitally notarizing further comprising means

for hashing the combination data block and means for digitally signing the hashed combination block, to increase the efficiency of the process of creating and later verifying the signature for larger documents and software files (column 5, paragraph 0055).

Regarding **claims 18, 42 and 66**, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product for providing improved audio compression, but lacks comprising means for verifying authenticity of the text stream by a receiver of the text stream and the digital notarization, using the public cryptographic key of the security core, and for concluding that the text stream is authentic if the verification succeeds.

Cooper discloses a web based network product comprising means for verifying authenticity of the text stream (verify the integrity) by a receiver of the text stream and the digital notarization (digitally signed documents), using the public cryptographic key of the security core (public-key cryptography), and for concluding that the text stream is authentic if the verification succeeds (column 5, paragraphs 0054-0056), to verify the integrity.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hoffberg's system, method and computer program product wherein it further comprises means for verifying authenticity of the text stream by a receiver of the text stream and the digital notarization, using the public cryptographic key of the security core, and for concluding that the text stream is authentic if the verification succeeds, to identify the certificates as being produced by

the certifying authority and to ensure that the certificate has not been altered or forged (column 5, paragraph 0056).

Regarding **claims 19, 43 and 67**, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product for providing improved audio compression, but lacks wherein the means for verifying authenticity further comprises concluding that the text stream has not been tampered with if the verification succeeds.

Cooper discloses a web based network product wherein the means for verifying authenticity further comprises concluding that the text stream has not been tampered with if the verification succeeds (verification process fail; column 5, paragraph 0056), to verify the integrity.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hoffberg's system, method and computer program product wherein the means for verifying authenticity further comprises concluding that the text stream has not been tampered with if the verification succeeds, to identify the certificates as being produced by the certifying authority and to ensure that the certificate has not been altered or forged (column 5, paragraph 0056).

Regarding **claims 20, 44 and 68**, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product for providing improved audio compression, but lacks wherein the means for verifying authenticity further comprises means for determining the audio recording component and the at least one transformation component involved in creating the text stream by decoding the digitally signed hashed combination data block to reveal the unique identifiers thereof.

Art Unit: 2655

Cooper discloses a web based network product wherein the means for verifying authenticity further comprises means for determining the audio recording component and the at least one transformation component involved in creating the text stream by decoding the digitally signed hashed combination data block to reveal the unique identifiers thereof (column 5, paragraph 0055 and column 6, paragraph 0073), to produce a message digest.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hoffberg's system, method and computer program product wherein it comprises the means for verifying authenticity further comprises means for determining the audio recording component and the at least one transformation component involved in creating the text stream by decoding the digitally signed hashed combination data block to reveal the unique identifiers thereof, to increase the efficiency of the process of creating and later verifying the signature for larger documents and software files (column 5, paragraph 0055).

Regarding **claims 21, 45 and 69**, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product for providing improved audio compression, but lacks comprising means for transforming the audio stream to a text stream and means for digitally notarizing the text.

Cooper discloses a web based network wherein:

the means for transforming the audio stream to a text stream further comprises:

means for transforming the audio stream to a digital stream by a first of the at least one transformation components which is an analog-to-digital transformation component (sending signals; column 1, paragraph 0013); and

means for converting the digital stream to the text stream (speech-to-text means) by a second of the at least one transformation components which is a voice recognition transformation component (voice recognition means; column 18, paragraph 0241 and columns 6 and 7, paragraph 0075); and

the means for digitally notarizing the text stream further comprises:

means for computing a hash over the text stream (column 5, paragraph 0055);

means for combining the hash (hash algorithm) with unique identifiers (unique value) of the audio recording component (column 5, paragraph 0055), the analog-to-digital transformation component (column 1, paragraph 0013), and the voice recognition transformation component (column 18, paragraph 0241 and columns 6 and 7, paragraph 0075); and

means for digitally signing (digitally signing) the combination using a private cryptographic key (private key) of the security core, wherein the private cryptographic key has a public cryptographic key cryptographically associated therewith (public key; column 6, paragraph 0073), to verify the integrity of a file.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hoffberg's system, method and computer program product wherein it comprises means for transforming the audio stream to a

text stream and means for digitally notarizing the text, to identify the certificate as being produced by the certifying authority and to ensure that the certificate has not been altered or forged (column 5, paragraph 0056).

Regarding **claims 22, 46 and 70**, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product for providing improved audio compression but lacks, comprising means for transforming the audio stream to a text stream and means for digitally notarizing the text stream.

Cooper discloses a web based network wherein:

the means for transforming the audio stream to a text stream further comprises:
means for transforming the audio stream to a first digital stream by a first of the at least one transformation components which is an analog-to-digital transformation component (sending signals; column 1, paragraph 0013);

means for converting the first digital stream to a first encoded text stream (speech-to-text) by a second of the at least one transformation components which is a voice recognition transformation component (voice recognition), wherein the voice recognition transformation component may be an authenticated speaker-specific voice recognition database (column 18, paragraph 0241 and columns 6 and 7, paragraph 0075); and

means for compressing the first encoded text stream into the text stream using a third of the at least one transformation components which is a text compression transformation component (column 12, paragraph 0153); and

the means for digitally notarizing the text stream further comprises:

means for computing a hash over the text stream (column 5, paragraph 0055);

means for combining the hash with unique identifiers (column 5, paragraph 0055) of: (1) the audio recording component (VCR; column 87, line 65 – column 88, line 3 with column 96, lines 15-24); (2) the analog-to-digital transformation component (column 1, paragraph 0013); (3) the voice recognition transformation component (column 18, paragraph 0261 with columns 6 and 7, paragraph 0075); (4) the authenticated speaker-specific voice recognition database (column 18, paragraph 0261 with columns 6 and 7, paragraph 0075); (5) the text compression transformation component (column 12, paragraph 0153); and

means for signing (signing) the combination using a private cryptographic key of the security core, wherein the private cryptographic key (private key) has a public cryptographic key cryptographically associated therewith (public key; column 6, paragraph 0073), to verify the integrity of a file.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hoffberg's system, method and computer program product wherein it comprises means for transforming the audio stream to a text stream and means for digitally notarizing the text stream, to identify the certificate as being produced by the certifying authority and to ensure that the certificate has not been altered or forged (column 5, paragraph 0056).

4. **Claims 23-24, 47-48 and 71-72** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoffberg in view of Cooper, as applied to above, and in further view of Hoarty et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,220,420), hereinafter referenced as Hoarty.

Regarding **claims 23, 47 and 71**, Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product for providing improved audio compression, but lacks wherein the text stream is an ASCII text stream.

Hoarty discloses an interactive home information system wherein the text stream is an ASCII text stream (column 6, line 66 – column 7, line 4), for textual information.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hoffberg's system, method and computer program product wherein the text stream is an ASCII text stream, to have the data in an object oriented database, to establish relevant association (column 7, lines 5-27).

Regarding **claims 24, 48 and 72** Hoffberg discloses a system, method and computer program product for providing improved audio compression, but lacks wherein the text stream is an EBCDIC text stream.

Hoarty discloses an interactive home information system wherein the text stream is an EBCDIC text stream (column 6, line 66 – column 7, line 4), for textual information.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hoffberg's system, method and computer program product wherein the text stream is an EBCDIC text stream, to have the data in an object oriented database, to establish relevant association (column 7, lines 5-27).

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
- Lee et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0087325) discloses a dialogue application computer platform.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jakieda R Jackson whose telephone number is 703.305.5593. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doris To can be reached on 703. 305.4827. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JRJ
January 18, 2005



DAVID L. OMETZ
PRIMARY EXAMINER